

Message Text

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ACTION OFA-01

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FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5220

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 NOUAKCHOTT 0497

CASABLANCA FOR REGIONAL FISHERIES ATTACHE

WASHINGTON FOR NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS MR

SUBJECT: REPORT ON MAURITANIAN FISHERIES

REF: CASABLANCA 238

1. SUMMARY: THIS CABLE CONTAINS EMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT COMMENTS ON DRAFT REPORT ON MAURITANIAN FISHERIES PREPARED BY RLA IN CASABLANCA. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBASSY SENDS ITS CONGRATULATIONS ON COMPREHENSIVE AND THOROUGH REPORT ON MAURITANIAN FISHERIES. WE SUGGEST ONLY FOLLOWING COMMENTS AND MINOR REVISIONS.

PAGE 1: INTRODUCTION NEEDS SEVERAL SENTENCES GIVING STATUS OF MAURITANIAN PORTION OF SAHARA AT TIME REPORT IS PUBLISHED. AS WATERS BETWEEN DAKHLA (FORMERLY VILLA CISNEROS) AND NOUAKCHOTT CONTAIN ONE OF RICHEST FISHING GROUNDS IN WORLD, INCLUSION OF THIS AREA IN MAURITANIA WILL HAVE IMPORTANT IMPACT ON MAURITANIAN FISHING INDUSTRY.

PAGE 1, FINAL PARA: POPULATION OF NOUAKCHOTT IS 120,000.

TOTAL MAURITANIAN POPULATION OF 1.4 MILLION IS ALSO 1975 ESTIMATE.

PAGE 3, PARA. 1: SUGGEST MENTION BE MADE OF ADDITION TO MAURITANIAN COASTLINE OF PORTION FORMER SPANISH SAHARA.

PAGE 8, PARA. 2: WE HAVE NEVER HEARD OF THE "THIOUBALLO" TRIBE.

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WE ALSO DOUBT THAT MAURES, A NOMADIC PEOPLE, ARE ONE OF GROUPS

RESPONSIBLE FOR MOST OF INLAND FISHING.

PAGE 17, PARA. 2: DELETE "IN THE SPANISH SAHARA".

PAGE 17, PARA. 3: DELETE "SOVINFLOR (OR SOBRYFLOR)" AND REPLACE WITH "OF THE MINISTRY OF FISH INDUSTRY".

PAGE 28, PARA. 7 CHANGE SPANISH SAHARA TO FORMER SPANISH SAHARA.

PAGE 30, PARA 2: CHANGE SPANISH SAHARA TO FORMER SPANISH SAHARA.

PAGE 41, FINAL PARA.: AFTER SEMICOLON, CHANGE TO READ "A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SOVIET MINISTRY OF FISH INDUSTRY, MR. BORIS SULTANOV MAMEDOVICH IS STATIONED IN NOUAKCHOTT WHILE AN ASSISTANT IS POSTED IN NOUADHIBOU."

PAGE 44, PARA. 1: DELETE "AN ELDERLY".

PAGE 58, PARA. 1: DELETE "SPANISH SAHARA".

PAGE 61, PARA. 1: REVISE FIRST SENTENCE TO READ: "RECREATIONAL FISHING IS QUITE POPULAR....".

PAGE 61, PARA. 2: REVISE SECOND HALF OF FIRST SENTENCE TO READ "BUT TOURIST FISHING IS VERY LIMITED AT THIS POINT."

PPQGE 64, PARA. 2: CHANGE TITLE TO READ FORMER SPANISH SAHARA.

PAGE 66, PARA. 3: DELETE SECOND SENTENCE ON ROMANIA AND REPLACE WITH: "THERE WERE REPORTEDLY TWO ROMANIAN FISHING VESSELS IN MAURITANIAN WATERS IN 1975".

PAGE 68, PARA . 1: REVISE PENULTIMATE SENTENCE TO READ: "THE GREEKS, HOWEVER, ARE EXPECTED TO BUILD A TOURIST HOTEL IN EXCHANGE FOR THIS RIGHT".

PAGE 69, PARA. 2: DELETE "IN THE SPANISH SAHARA". ADD FOLLOWING SENTENCE: "FOLLOWING THE MAURITANIAN TAKEOVER OF LA GUERA IN DECEMBER 1975, BOTH FIRMS WERE PLACED UNDER MAURITANIAN CONTROL, ALTHOUGH THEY ARE NOT BELIEVED TO BE OPERATING AT THE PRESENT TIME".

PAGE 69, PARA. 3: PARAGRAPH HAS BEEN OVERTAKEN BY EVENTS AND SHOULD BE DELETED.

PAGE 77, FINAL PARAGRAPH: SUGGEST PARAGRAPH BE REWRITTEN AS FOLLOWS: "TECHNICIANS FROM THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ARE ALREADY ENGAGED IN SURVEY WORK FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A DEEP WATER PORT AT NOUAKCHOTT. THE PROJECT IS PROCEEDING SLOWLY, HOWEVER, AND IT WILL BE A NUMBER OF YEARS BEFORE THE PORT WILL BE OPERATIONAL."

PAGE 78, FINAL PARAGRAPH: REVISE FIRST TWO SENTENCES AS FOLLOWS: "IN 1972, THE MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND THE MERCHANT MARINE WAS UNCLASSIFIED

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DISBANDED AND ITS FUNCTIONS WERE.....". IN THIRD SENTENCE, DELETE "OCEANOGRAPHY ALONG WITH A DIRECTORATE OF THE MERCHANT MARINE".

PAGE 79, PARA. 1: CHANGE TITLE TO READ "DIRECTION DE L'OCEANOGRAPHIE, DES PECHEES, ET DE LA MARINE MARCHANDE" B.P. IS 137.

REVISE FIRST SENTENCE AFTER ADDRESS: "THE DIRECTOR OF FISHERIES IN NOUAKCHOTT WAS DR. WALY N'DAW FROM SEPTEMBER 1972 THROUGH

OCTOBER 1975." CORRECT THE SPELLING OF WALY N'DAW UNDER
PICTURE AND OULD ISMAIL IN ADDRESS.

PAGE 80, PARA. 1: PUT PERIOD AFTER CECAF AND DELETE REMAINDER
OF SENTENCE.

PAGE 80, PARA. 3: DUE TO POLICY IMPLICATIONS OF FIRST SENTENCE,
BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO CHANGE IT TO READ. ".....ALL
WENT TO GREAT LENGTHS TO ASSURE THE RFA AND THE DCM FROM THE
EMBASSY IN NOUAKCHOTT THAT QUALIFIED UNITED STATES FISHERY
FIRMS INTERESTED IN INVESTING IN MAURITANIA'S FISHERIES WOULD
BE CORDIALLY WELCOMED."

PAGE 81, PARA. 2: CHANGE SPANISH SAHARA TO FORMER SPANISH
SAHARA.

PAGE 92, PARA. 2: CHANGE SPANISH SAHARA TO FORMER SPANISH
SAHARA.

PAGE 94, PENULTIMATE PARA: ADD FOLLOWING SENTENCES: "BEGINNING
LATE IN 1975, THE GOVERNMENT ADOPTED A MUCH TOUGHER ATTITUDE
TOWARD THE NEGOTIATION AND RENEGOTIATION OF FISHERIES AGREEMENTS
WITH OTHER COUNTRIES. THE DETAILS OF THIS POLICY CHANGE, HOWEVER,
ARE NOT YET KNOWN."

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ACTION OFA-01

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TO AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5221

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PAGE 95, FINAL PARA: ADD FOLLOWING REFERENCE AT BOTTOM OF PAGE:
"FEBRUARY 1976: A FRENCH FISHERIES DELEGATION HELD DISCUSSIONS
WITH MAURITANIA UNDER THE TERMS OF THE 1974 FRANCO-MAURITANIAN
COOPERATION AGREEMENT".

PAGE 96, PARA. 3: PROPOSE FOLLOWING REVISION OF PARA: "THE
GREEKS AND THE MAURITANIANS HELD A MIXED COMMISSION MEETING
ON FISHERIES IN 1973 AND AGAIN IN FEBRUARY 1976. GREECE HAS
AGREED TO BUILD A \$1.5 MILLION TOURIST HOTEL IN NOUADHIBOU IN
EXCHANGE FOR FISHING RIGHTS. GREECE IS ALSO OFFERING TRAINING
TO 15 MAURITANIANS ANNUALLY IN THE FIELD OF FISHERIES, TOURISM,

OR POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS."

PAGE 99, PARA. 1: REVISE AS FOLLOWS: "JUNE, 1975: JAPAN AND MAURITANIA SIGNED AN AGREEMENT EXTENDING THE 1974 FISHERIES AGREEMENT."

PAGE 99, SECTION ON ROMANIA: PUT PERIOD AFTER "WILL BE INVOLVED" IN FINAL SENTENCE AND ADD NEW FINAL SENTENCE: "TWO ROMANIAN VESSELS WERE SAID TO BE FISHING IN MAURITANIAN WATERS IN 1975".

PAGE 102, PARA. 1: REPLACE FINAL SENTENCE WITH "NEGOTIATIONS TOOK PLACE IN NOUAKCHOTT IN FEBRUARY 1976 BETWEEN MAURITANIA AND PORTUGAL". ADD TWO NEW SENTENCES: "THEY REPORTEDLY DEALT WITH THE RENEWAL OF A 1974 AGREEMENT SIGNED BETWEEN MAURITANIA AND A PORTUGUESE COMPANY. MAURITANIA ANNOUNCED ITS DESIRE TO CHANGE THIS AGREEMENT TO THE GOVERNMENT TO GOVERNMENT LEVEL."

PAGE 103: SUGGEST THAT SECTION ON TRADE AND INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES BE SLIGHTLY RECAST. WE DO NOT BELIEVE TIME IS RIGHT TO ENCOURAGE DIRECT US INVESTMENT IN LOCAL FISHING INDUSTRY EMPHASIS SHOULD RATHER BE PLACED ON OFFERING MANAGEMENT CONTRASTS, SELLING OF TECHNICAL SERVICES, PROVIDING EXPERTISE IN ESTABLISHMENT OF MAURITANIAN OWNED FISHING FLEET OR INDUSTRY, UNCLASSIFIED

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SALE OF FISHERIES EQUIPMENT, AND CONSTRUCTION OF TURNKEY PLANTS.

PAGE 104, PARA. 1: SUGGEST FOLLOWING REVISION OF PARA:

"INTERESTED AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN ARE ALSO CAUTIONED TO EXPECT LENGTHY DELAYS IN RECEIVING REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENCE -- HAVE BEEN AMOUNTING TO SEVERAL MONTHS OR MORE. AGREEMENT ON A PROJECT CAN SELDOM BE REACHED ON THE BASIS OF ONE VISIT TO MAURITANIA. NORMALLY, SEVERAL VISITS AND CONSIDERABLE FOLLOWUP ARE REQUIRED TO CONSUMATE ANY DEAL. BUSINESS PROPOSALS SHOULD BE WRITTEN IN FRENCH. THOSE PREPARED IN ENGLISH WILL RECEIVE LITTLE OR NO ATTENTION." HANDYSIDE

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